

THE LUNAR THORN : SELENIA LUNARIA D. & S. IN EAST SUSSEX. — A fine male specimen of this species appeared in the home run MV light trap on the 23rd July. This example seemed smaller and richer in colour than most other examples I have seen and presumably represents a second generation moth. — M. PARSONS, The Forge, Russells Green, Ninfield, Battle, E. Sussex.

BUCCULATRIX CIDARELLA ZELLER ON MYRICA GALE IN ENGLAND. — On the 3rd of September, 1982, in the company of Mr. E. C. Pelham-Clinton, Dr. J. D. Bradley and Dr J. R. Langmaid, I found *B. cidarella* feeding in some plenty on bog myrtle (*Myrica gale*) on the Arne National Nature Reserve, Dorset. Alder (*Ahnus glutinosa*), the usual foodplant, was nowhere in sight, but the warden of the reserve told us that it occurred plentifully about half a mile away.

This is the first record of *B. cidarella* feeding on bog myrtle in England, the previous records having been made from north-west Wales and south-west Ireland. In most places where alder and bog myrtle occur together *B. cidarella* is confined to the former; when, however, it does accept the latter, it abounds on it. Hitherto it has proved immune from parasitisation when feeding on bog myrtle and this may be the explanation for the success of such colonies. — A. M. EMMET, Labrey Cottage, Victoria Gardens, Saffron Walden, Essex, CB11 3AF.

THE HIGH BROWN FRITILLARY: ARGYNNIS ADIPPE D. & S. IN S. CUMBRIA. — It was satisfying to find good numbers of this species during the 1982 season in one of its strong but geographically isolated colonies in South Cumbria. The site, undisturbed light scrub and woodland on limestone, is extensive and at the height of its flying season in July and early August this year, this was the most prominent and probably abundant butterfly. This supposition was backed up by regular transect counts where numbers were similar to the Small Pearl Bordered Fritillary and to associated grassland species such as Common Blue and Meadow Brown. Netting and release of specimens taken at random showed it to outnumber the Dark Green Fritillary by about 10/1.

At a time when the apparent national trend is for a decline in the species, the present relative abundance is encouraging and it is hoped this butterfly will continue to thrive in this locality. — M. J. Y. FOLEY, 87 Ribchester Road, Clayton-le-Dale, Blackburn, Lancs.

PARARGE AGERIA L. (SPECKLED WOOD) FEEDING ON DAMAGED APPLE. — For the most part the speckled wood butterflies visiting my Dartford garden this year behaved typically, flitting above in partially shaded situations, and on the flower border merely settled upon the leaves for brief intervals despite the profusion of flowers. However, on August 29th 1982, I noticed a specimen feeding upon a bird and wasp-damaged Laxton's Fortune apple hanging in a shaded position about six feet from the ground. On several occasions it left the fruit only to return after a short interval, and on each occasion was seen clearly to be feeding.